

IV. A.

Attachment 4 - Recent communications from F.B.I. enclosing affidavits of J. Edgar Hoover, agents of the F.B.I. and containing results of interviews of Dallas officials and newspaper reporters



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 6, 1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to our conversation of January 28, 1964, concerning testimony furnished the Commission by Mr. Henry M. Wade, the District Attorney of Dallas County, Texas. You advised that Mr. Wade testified he had heard that Lee Harvey Oswald had been an informant of the FBI, had been assigned symbol number "179" and had been paid \$200 monthly in this capacity. You further advised that Mr. Wade also indicated that FBI headquarters was not in a position to know in all instances whether an individual was an informant of this Bureau.

At the time, I advised you that Lee Harvey Oswald had never been an informant of the FBI and that this Bureau's procedure in regard to handling informants is such as to insure that FBI headquarters would have all necessary facts concerning the development and control of any and every informant.

Enclosed for your information and use in this regard is an affidavit in which I have categorically stated that Lee Harvey Oswald was never an informant of the FBI and have outlined our administrative procedures for the handling and the payment of confidential informants.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Edgar Hoover", is written below the typed name.

Enclosure

AFFIDAVIT

CITY OF WASHINGTON     )  
                              )  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA   )     ss:

J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he has caused a search to be made of the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, by employees of the said Federal Bureau of Investigation acting under his direction, and that said search discloses that Lee Harvey Oswald was never an informant of the FBI, was never assigned a symbol number in that capacity, and was never paid any amount of money by the FBI in any regard.

Such a statement can be made authoritatively and without equivocation because of the close supervision FBI headquarters affords its security informant program and because of the safeguards established to insure against any abuse or misuse of the program.

FBI field offices cannot proceed to develop anyone as a security informant without authorization from FBI headquarters. An informant is assigned a permanent symbol number and code name to afford him security. The informant never knows the symbol number assigned to him. It is a number permanently assigned to him, and the same number cannot be used again by the field office under any circumstances for any other individual. The individual also is given a fictitious or cover name by the field office which he, of course, is made aware of, and he affixes it to his communications with the office. Every symbol number and code name is indexed at FBI headquarters.

If the services of an informant warrant payment on a regular basis, the field offices must also obtain authorization from FBI headquarters to make such payments.

Special Agents in Charge (SACs) of FBI field offices are authorized to make payments to individuals not utilized on



a regular basis as informants, but here too FBI headquarters controls this by limiting the amount an SAC can pay to any one individual in this category. FBI headquarters maintains control of such payments since they must be accounted for by the field offices at the end of each month through the submission of a detailed accounting to headquarters.

Had any of the FBI field offices made payments to Lee Harvey Oswald under the SAC's authority, these would have been shown in the receipts and vouchers submitted by each office. These records have been checked and no such payment was ever made. Had Oswald been assigned a symbol number, this would be a matter of record not only by number but also by name. As a matter of fact, the FBI can identify every symbol number used, past or present. Oswald could not have been assigned such a symbol number without approval by FBI headquarters. There is no record of any such request by any field office and no record of any such approval.

The only contacts FBI Agents had with Oswald prior to the assassination of President Kennedy involved three interviews FBI Agents had with him. The first was on June 26, 1962, at Fort Worth, Texas, shortly after his return home from the Soviet Union. The purpose was to assess the possibility of his having been given intelligence assignments by the Soviets. The second, on August 16, 1962, was in the same connection. The third was at his specific request on August 10, 1963, following his arrest in New Orleans the preceding day on a charge of disturbing the peace and creating a scene. At that time, he described some of his activities in connection with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, the pro-Castro organization.

Oswald was again interviewed by FBI Agents at the Dallas Police Department following his arrest after the assassination of the President. This interview was aimed at eliciting any admissions he might make in connection with the assassination, as well as to obtain any information he might have been able to furnish of a security nature.

FBI headquarters has obtained affidavits from every Special Agent who was in contact with Oswald, as well as affidavits from their respective SACs. These affidavits show that none of these FBI Agents developed Oswald as an informant.

Mr. Henry M. Wade, a former Special Agent of the FBI and currently the District Attorney of Dallas County, Texas, reportedly testified previously to the Commission that he had

heard that Lee Harvey Oswald was an FBI informant with the symbol number "179" and was being paid \$200 monthly. As the facts clearly show, this is not true.

Furthermore, the facts refute Mr. Wade's reported statement to the Commission that there is no record maintained in the FBI of informant funds expended or the purposes for which used by the FBI employee to whom they were furnished.

Mr. Wade reportedly stated that he had worked in the FBI's Special Intelligence Service (SIS) and that he was supplied from time to time with various sums of money for which he did not have to account and for which he did not have to obtain any receipts from the persons to whom he disbursed the money.

The emergency conditions that prevailed during World War II when the FBI conducted its SIS program did not permit the tight supervision that prevails currently in the FBI's informant operations. But this is true only in regard to the fact that SIS men necessarily were given the latitude to develop and pay informants on the spot without prior approval from FBI headquarters. Nevertheless, SIS men operated under a control system and adhered to it by advising FBI headquarters of payments made and the identity of the individuals paid. Such payments were supported by receipts in nearly every instance.

Mr. Wade, for example, entered on duty with the FBI on December 4, 1939. On July 6, 1942, he was advanced the sum of \$1,075 in connection with an SIS assignment. This was for subsistence and travel in connection with his assignment in Ecuador as well as to provide him with some money with which to establish himself. His passage from New Orleans to Guayaquil, Ecuador, cost over \$500 alone. In addition, he was required to make full restitution of the total amount which had been advanced him and subsequently did so. All of his expenditures of the total amount furnished him were substantiated by vouchers he submitted.

Mr. Wade arrived in Ecuador on August 16, 1942. He operated in an undercover capacity with a symbol number, specifically Number 345, and used the code name "James" in signing communications. Within Ecuador, he was referred to as Confidential Informant Number 6.

Although in an undercover capacity, Mr. Wade was required to submit vouchers twice monthly through the Legal Attache's Office in Quito, Ecuador. They were reviewed there and forwarded to FBI headquarters where they were checked prior to approval and the transmittal of funds to Mr. Wade's account.

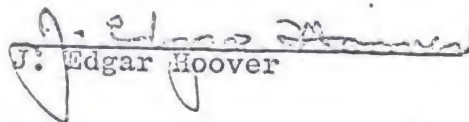


In his operations, Mr. Wade handled a total of 11 informants. His vouchers clearly identify each expenditure made by him in connection with payments to any one of these informants. In all, Mr. Wade expended a total of \$1,438.21 in payments to informants. In addition to identifying each informant paid and indicating the amount paid to each, he complied with the regulations to furnish separately summary data on all informants he was using and an evaluation of their services.

Five of the informants Mr. Wade was operating were the most productive. These five received a total of \$1,284.94 in 52 separate payments made by Mr. Wade. Each of these payments was supported by a receipt. Six other payments unsupported by receipts were accounted for by Mr. Wade in vouchers submitted by him.

Mr. Wade left Ecuador on May 2, 1943, and in a letter dated May 25, 1943, submitted his resignation from the FBI. By letter dated June 13, 1943, Mr. Wade sought reinstatement, stating that he had made a mistake in resigning. However, this request for reinstatement was refused since the FBI's request for his deferment under the Selective Service Act already had been withdrawn.

Signed this 6th day of February, 1964, at  
Washington, District of Columbia

  
J. Edgar Hoover

Subscribed and Sworn to before  
me this 6th day of February,  
1964. Louise D. Walter, Notary  
Public, District of Columbia.  
My commission expires August 14,  
1968.

  
Louise D. Walter



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

February 10, 1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to our conversation of January 28, 1964, concerning information furnished to the Commission by Mr. Henry M. Wade, the District Attorney of Dallas County, Texas. You advised that Mr. Wade indicated he had heard that Lee Harvey Oswald had been an informant of the FBI, had been assigned symbol number "179," and had been paid \$200 monthly in this capacity. You further advised that Mr. Wade also indicated that FBI Headquarters was not in a position to know in all instances whether an individual was an informant of this Bureau.

For your information, Mr. Henry M. Wade was interviewed by Special Agent in Charge J. Gordon Shanklin and Assistant Special Agent in Charge Kyle G. Clark of our Dallas, Texas, Office on February 8, 1964, in this matter.

Mr. Wade claimed that during his discussion with the Commission in Washington, D. C., on January 24, 1964, which he referred to as a very informal discussion with no notes taken to his knowledge, there were present Chief Justice Earl Warren and yourself. Wade stated that William Alexander, his assistant; Waggoner Carr, District Attorney for the State of Texas; Robert Storey, former Dean of Southern Methodist University; and Leon Jaworski, Houston attorney, accompanied him during his discussion with the Commission.

According to Mr. Wade, during his discussion with the Commission on January 24, 1964, mention was made of voucher number 179 and the name Lee Harvey Oswald. Mr. Wade stated that no such voucher was produced or exhibited. Mr. Wade claimed that he told the Commission that the FBI did not have any



Honorable J. Lee Rankin

informant without a number and that an informant's identity was always known in FBI Headquarters. Mr. Wade added that he told the Commission that an individual Special Agent, in getting money for an informant from FBI Headquarters, submitted the informant's number on a voucher without a name. Mr. Wade also claimed he told the Commission that he had never heard of having an informant on the payroll by name.

Mr. Wade further stated that during his discussion with the Commission he thinks he was asked about retaining receipts from informants but he could not recall whether he had to obtain such receipts when he was handling informants on Special Intelligence Service assignment as an FBI Agent. Mr. Wade claimed he tried to convey to the Commission that an informant could not be developed by an FBI Agent without knowledge of FBI Headquarters.

During our interview with Mr. Wade, he reviewed the expense accounts submitted by him while he was on Special Intelligence Service assignment and he stated that all funds expended by him were entirely and accurately accounted for and that he now realizes he did get receipts and that the expenditures by him were reported to FBI Headquarters in detail. Mr. Wade also stated he did not handle any informants without the full knowledge of FBI Headquarters.

Mr. Wade volunteered that he would be talking to you within the next few days and he was going to clarify the fact that he did obtain receipts from informants.

Mr. Wade further stated that during his discussion with the Commission on January 24, 1964, he recalls there was a limited conversation about the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald might have been an FBI informant and that there was more speculation that Oswald might have been an informant of the Central Intelligence Agency. He recalled that Mr. Robert Storey stated he was with the War Crimes Commission in Germany after World War II and either worked for or with the Central Intelligence Agency in Europe. Mr. Wade added that Mr. Storey indicated that the Central Intelligence Agency had informants that no one knew about except the Central Intelligence Agency Agent and that the informant might have an informant.



Honorable J. Lee Rankin

In conclusion, Mr. Wade reiterated that he told the Commission that he had no information to the effect that Lee Harvey Oswald was an informant of the FBI or any Governmental agency.

Sincerely yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

February 11, 1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your conversation with Inspector James R. Malley of this Bureau on February 7, 1964, regarding Lonnie Hudkins, the Houston "Post" reporter who wrote an article in the January 1, 1964, issue of the Houston "Post" entitled "Oswald Rumored as Informant for U.S."

For your information, Mr. Alonzo F. Hudkins, III, also known as Lonnie Hudkins, was interviewed by Agents of this Bureau on February 8, 1964, in this matter. Mr. Hudkins stated he arrived in Dallas, Texas, in late December, 1963, to check out rumors that Oswald might have been an informant of the FBI. He stated such rumors were based on information he had received from Assistant District Attorney William Alexander to the effect that Oswald's address book contained the name of Agent Hosty, his office and home telephone numbers and his automobile license number. Mr. Hudkins also stated he had interviewed Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, who said that Oswald was doing important subversive work for the Government.

Mr. Hudkins further stated he had contacted a Government official, not a Federal official in Dallas, who had told him that Oswald was on the payroll of either the FBI or the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) with voucher number 179 and that he had received no less than \$150 a month and no more than \$225 a month. Mr. Hudkins claimed that the official who furnished him this information had furnished him reliable information in the past which he had been able to print. Mr. Hudkins stated he did not print anything stating Oswald was



Honorable J. Lee Rankin

an informant of the FBI or CIA but merely raised this question in his article in the Houston "Post" of January 1, 1964, since he had only this official's word and did not have any supporting documents of any kind to substantiate this allegation. He further stated he had made inquiries of some of his friends in Houston, Texas, whose names he would not divulge and had also requested his Washington, D. C., headquarters to attempt to check out this allegation. According to Mr. Hudkins this allegation could not be verified through any of his sources and, therefore, was not printed in the Houston "Post."

Mr. Hudkins was questioned at length in an attempt to ascertain his source that Oswald was an FBI or CIA informant, but Mr. Hudkins refused to divulge his source or to furnish a signed statement. He stated that when he received this information from his source he was alone and no other reporters were present.

According to Mr. Hudkins, the only other information he had heard that Oswald might be a symbol number informant was from Joe Golden, a reporter of the "Philadelphia Inquirer," who was in Dallas in late December, 1963. According to Hudkins, Mr. Golden mentioned to him a number different from 179, that might have been a voucher number. Mr. Hudkins stated he could not recall the number.

At the conclusion of our interview with Mr. Hudkins he stated that even if he were called to appear before the President's Commission, he would decline to furnish the source of his information.

In connection with Mr. Hudkins' reference to Joe Golden, please be advised that we have interviewed Mr. Joseph Goulden, a reporter for the "Philadelphia Inquirer," in connection with an article Mr. Goulden reported in the December 8, 1963, issue of the "Philadelphia Inquirer," wherein he alleged that Lee Harvey Oswald at one time had been contacted by the FBI to become an informant. He said he had obtained this information from a law enforcement officer in Dallas whom he declined to identify. We reinterviewed Joseph Goulden on December 16, 1963, in an attempt to pin down the source of his allegation, but Mr. Goulden declined to identify the law enforcement officer after allegedly having talked to him on the telephone. He did say, however, that the officer told him that the matter was being "handled through proper channels."

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

For your added information, we have contacted the Dallas Police Department, Dallas, Texas, to determine if an allegation had been made a matter of record to the effect that Lee Harvey Oswald at one time had been contacted by the FBI to become an informant. No such record was found in the files of the Dallas Police Department, Dallas, Texas.

The foregoing is furnished for your information in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

February 12, 1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to my letter of February 6, 1964, enclosing an affidavit executed by me, wherein I categorically state that Lee Harvey Oswald was never an informant of the FBI.

Pursuant to your request, there are enclosed nine additional affidavits, executed by personnel of this Bureau who, because of their assignments, would have been responsible for or cognizant of any attempt to develop Lee Harvey Oswald as an informant of the FBI. In addition, there is enclosed an affidavit, executed by John W. Fain, retired Special Agent of the FBI. Mr. Fain took part in interviews of Lee Harvey Oswald on June 26, 1962, and August 16, 1962, at Fort Worth, Texas.

You will note that each of the individuals concerned denies any knowledge that Lee Harvey Oswald ever was an informant of the FBI.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Edgar Hoover", is written below the "Sincerely yours," text.

Enclosures 10

AFFIDAVIT

I, J. GORDON SHANKLIN, being duly sworn, depose as follows: I have been Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since April 22, 1963. In my position as Special Agent in Charge, it is my responsibility to authorize and approve any payments to confidential informants. I have never made, nor have I authorized to be made, any payment to Lee Harvey Oswald for information furnished or for any other purpose. I have reviewed the records of this office and there is no record of any payment ever having been made or authorized for Lee Harvey Oswald.

J. Gordon Shanklin  
J. GORDON SHANKLIN  
Special Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1964.


[Signature]  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Dallas County, Texas



AFFIDAVIT

I, KYLE G. CLARK, being duly sworn, depose as follows:

I have been Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since August 28, 1961. In such position, in the absence of the Special Agent in Charge, I must authorize any payments to informants or sources furnishing information. I have never made or authorized any payment to Lee Harvey Oswald. I have reviewed the records of this office and there is no record of any payment ever having been made or authorized for Lee Harvey Oswald.

  
KYLE G. CLARK  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

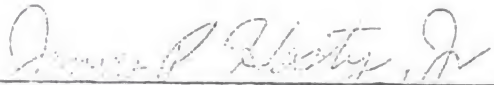
Sworn to and subscribed before me on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1964.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Dallas County, Texas


AFFIDAVIT

I, JAMES P. HOSTY, JR., Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since January 21, 1952, having been duly sworn, make the following statement:

At no time prior to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy did I ever see or talk to Lee Harvey Oswald. I have never made payments of any kind to him. In addition, I have never made any attempt to develop him as an informant or source of information.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES P. HOSTY, JR.  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 5th day of February, 1964.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Dallas County, Texas



AFFIDAVIT

I, BURNETT TOM CARTER, Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since October 19, 1933, having been duly sworn, make the following statement:

On June 28, 1934, at Fort Worth, Texas, I sat in on an interview of Lee Harvey Oswald which was conducted by former Special Agent John W. Fain (retired). In the course of this interview neither Special Agent Fain nor myself made any payment of any kind to Lee Harvey Oswald for any information he was furnishing or might in the future furnish; no effort was made to recruit his services in any capacity on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the U. S. Government; and no overtures, or promises of payment or otherwise, looking toward his possible future recruitment in any capacity on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the U. S. Government, were made to him.

I never saw or talked to Lee Harvey Oswald on any other occasion.

\_\_\_\_\_  
BURNETT TOM CARTER  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 5 day of  
July, 1934.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Dallas County, Texas

AFFIDAVIT

I, ARNOLD J. BROWN, Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since February 20, 1949, having been duly sworn, make the following statement:

On August 16, 1963, at Ft. Worth, Texas, I sat in on an interview of Lee Harvey Oswald which was conducted by former Special Agent John W. Fain (retired). In the course of this interview neither Special Agent Fain nor myself made any payment of any kind to Lee Harvey Oswald for any information he was furnishing or might in the future furnish; no effort was made to recruit his service in any capacity on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the U. S. Government; and no overtures, or promises of payment or otherwise, looking toward his possible future recruitment in any capacity on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the U. S. Government, were made to him.

I never saw or talked to Lee Harvey Oswald on any other occasion.

Arnold J. Brown  
ARNOLD J. BROWN  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 5<sup>th</sup> day of  
Feb, 1964.


Notary Public  
Dallas County, Texas




AFFIDAVIT

I, KENNETH C. HOWE, Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since January 3, 1941, having been duly sworn, make the following statement:

I never saw or talked to Lee Harvey Oswald and never made any payments of any kind to him. I have no knowledge indicating he was ever an informant or source of information for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

  
KENNETH C. HOWE  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 5th day of January, 1964.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Dallas County, Texas

AFFIDAVIT

I, H. G. Maynor, Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, being duly sworn, depose as follows:

I have been assigned as Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since June 12, 1961, and specifically during the period that LEE HARVEY OSWALD resided in New Orleans, Louisiana, during 1963. All matters relating to informants are my responsibility and at no time have I instructed any Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to make any effort to develop LEE HARVEY OSWALD as an informant. During the above period, I am aware that no effort was made to develop LEE HARVEY OSWALD as an informant. In view of my responsibility and knowledge of all informant matters, I am aware that no money was paid to LEE HARVEY OSWALD as an informant or for allegedly serving as an informant. Payments to informants are personally approved by me and it would be impossible for LEE HARVEY OSWALD to have been paid any funds without my knowing of same.

H. G. Maynor  
H. G. Maynor,  
Special Agent in Charge,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the 10th day of February, 1964.

Louis C. LaCour,  
NOTARY PUBLIC, New Orleans, La.  
(My commission expires at my death)

A F F I D A V I T

I, John L. Quigley, being duly sworn, depose as follows:

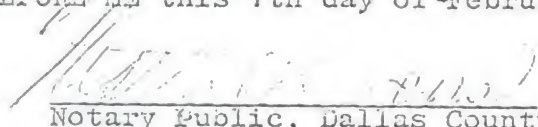
On August 10, 1963, I questioned Lee Harvey Oswald at the First District Station, New Orleans Police Department, New Orleans, Louisiana, for the purpose of obtaining data concerning himself and his activities. At this time Oswald was under arrest on a local charge of Disturbing the Peace. This was the only time I ever saw or questioned Oswald.

During the questioning of Oswald, I neither attempted to induce or suggest to Oswald that he become an informant; nor did I give any consideration to such action.

In view of the above, I did not at any time give Oswald money for serving as an informant.

  
John L. Quigley

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME this 7th day of February, 1964.

  
Notary Public, Dallas County, Texas



STATE OF CALIFORNIA )

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO)

SS

CURTIS O. LYNUM, being by me first duly sworn,  
deposes and says:

That he was Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from December, 1958, until April 18, 1963. In this position he had the responsibility for authorizing any payment to informants or sources of information; that he never made or authorized to be made any payment to LEE HARVEY OSWALD; that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was not used as an informant or source during his tenure in Dallas.

*Curtis O. Lynum*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CURTIS O. LYNUM

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 10th day of February, 1964

*Ernest A. Johnson*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
in and for the City and County of  
San Francisco, State of California

My Commission Expires February 5, 1968

THE STATE OF TEXAS }  
COUNTY OF HARRIS }

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County, State of Texas, on this day personally appeared John W. Fain, to me well known, and who, after being by me duly sworn, deposes and states as follows:

I am a retired Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and reside at 12711 Pebblebrook, Houston, Texas.

I was formerly employed as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from September 8, 1942, to October 29, 1962.

During the year 1962, I was assigned to the Dallas Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and in connection with my work as a Special Agent I had occasion to interview Lee Harvey Oswald. This first interview occurred at Fort Worth, Texas, on or about June 26, 1962, and I was assisted in this interview by Special Agent B. Tom Carter.

Upon a second occasion I interviewed Lee Harvey Oswald on or about August 16, 1962, at Fort Worth, Texas, and upon this occasion was assisted by Special Agent Arnold J. Brown.

At no time during or in connection with the above interviews did I or either of the above named agents make any payment of any kind to Oswald for any information he furnished us or which he might furnish in the future. No effort was at any time made to recruit Lee Harvey Oswald's services in any capacity on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or any other Government agency. Furthermore, no suggestion, either express or implied, was ever made that Oswald might act as an informant or employee in any capacity for the Federal Bureau of Investigation or for any Government agency.

During these interviews, Lee Harvey Oswald exhibited an arrogant and hostile attitude, and in view of his uncooperative attitude I never felt that he could be trusted to furnish any reliable information.

John W. Fain

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, this 29th day of January  
A.D. 1964

Kathleen K. Smith

Notary Public in and for  
Harris County, Texas





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 13, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to our letter dated February 11, 1964, setting forth results of our interview with Lonnie Hudkins, reporter for the Houston "Post" on February 8, 1964.

You will note that on page two of our February 11, 1964, letter to you we reported that Mr. Hudkins was questioned at length in an attempt to ascertain his source that Oswald was an FBI informant, but that Mr. Hudkins refused to divulge his source or to furnish a signed statement. We also reported that according to Mr. Hudkins, the only other information he had heard that Oswald might be a symbol number informant was from "Joe Golden," a reporter for the "Philadelphia Inquirer," who was in Dallas in late December, 1963.

We further advised that we had previously interviewed Mr. Joseph Goulden, a reporter for the "Philadelphia Inquirer," in connection with an article Mr. Goulden reported in the December 8, 1963, issue of the "Philadelphia Inquirer," wherein he alleged that Lee Harvey Oswald at one time had been contacted by the FBI to become an informant. Mr. Goulden claimed he obtained this information from a law enforcement officer in Dallas whom he declined to identify.

We reinterviewed Mr. Joseph Goulden on February 11, 1964, at which time we told Mr. Goulden that Lonnie Hudkins alleged that he had received information from Mr. Goulden to the effect that Oswald might be a symbol number informant.

*noted*  
*2-14-64*  
*O D R.*

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

Mr. Goulden admitted knowing Mr. Hudkins and stated that he had been visited by Hudkins in Philadelphia, December 1, 1963. Mr. Goulden stated that at the time of this visit with Hudkins he had not yet been to Dallas to write the assassination story. He added that any discussion he had with Hudkins regarding the Oswald case would have concerned Hudkins' on-the-scene account of the assassination and what Goulden had heard and read in Philadelphia.

Mr. Goulden stated he did not recall any conversation with Hudkins regarding the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald was an FBI informant.

The above is for your additional information in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover